

### Remarks

Favorable review is requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 43, 47, 50, and 52 – 57 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Claims 43 – 57 are pending in the application.

### Interview Summary

On June 20, 2006, Examiner Miller and Applicants' representative, Charles Jacobson, conducted a teleconference. Applicants' representative and Examiner Miller discussed generally the claimed invention and Ainslie et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,761,699).

### Specification

The specification was objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent basis of the claimed subject matter. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Claims 52 – 57 have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

### Claim Objections

Claims 53 – 57 were objected to because of informalities. Applicants respectfully traverse this objection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Claims 53 – 57 have been appropriately amended by replacing "The device" with "The actuation assembly". Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

### Drawings

The drawing were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a). Applicants respectfully traverse this objection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Claims 43, 47, and 52 have been appropriately amended. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 52 – 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Claims 52 – 57 have been appropriately amended. In claim 52, “holding member” has been deleted and “gimbal” has been inserted. In claims 53 – 57, “The device” has been deleted and “The actuation assembly” has been inserted. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 43, 47, and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ainslie et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,761,699). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Claim 43 requires a slider bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace layer, the slider bond pad having at least two layers and a ball bond for connecting the slider bond pad to the trace layer. Ainslie et al. fail to teach or suggest a slider bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace layer, the slider bond pad having at least two layers and a ball bond for connecting the slider bond pad to the gimbal.

Claim 47 requires a slider bond pad extending from the front side for electrically connecting to the flex on suspension bond pad, the slider bond pad having a pad extension adjacent to the front side and a pad adjacent the pad extension and a ball bond for electrically connecting the pad to the flex on suspension bond pad. Ainslie et al. fail to teach or suggest a slider bond pad extending from the front side for electrically connecting to the flex on suspension bond pad, the slider bond pad having a pad extension adjacent to the front side and a pad adjacent the pad extension and a ball bond for electrically connecting the pad to the flex on suspension bond pad.

Claim 52 requires a bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace, the bond pad having at least two layers and a ball bond for connecting the bond pad to the trace. Ainslie

et al. fail to teach or suggest a bond pad for electrically connecting the slider to a trace, the bond pad having at least two layers and a ball bond for connecting the bond pad to the trace.

Claims 43 and 52 require a bond pad having at least two layers and a ball bond. Claim 47 requires a slider bond pad having a pad extension adjacent to the front side (of a slider body) and a pad adjacent the pad extension; and a ball bond. See FIG. 5 of the present application. In contrast, Ainslie et al. only teach or suggest two elements, a lead termination 41 and solder joints 86. See FIG. 6 or 7 of Ainslie et al.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

#### Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 44 – 46 and 55 – 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ainslie et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Claims 44 – 46, which depend from independent claim 43, are patentable for at least the reasons stated above. Claims 55 – 57, which depend from independent claim 52, are patentable for at least the reasons stated above. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.


Claims 48 – 51 and 53 – 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ainslie et al. in view of Pihl (U.S. Patent No. 3,573,812). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the following comments.

Pihl fails to overcome the noted shortcomings of Ainslie et al. Thus, claims 48 – 51, which depend from independent claim 47, and claims 53 – 54, which depend from independent claim 52, are patentable for at least the reasons stated above. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the comments presented herein, favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If any further questions should arise, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the number listed below.

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By:   
Charles A. Jacobson  
Reg. No. 53,061  
Intellectual Property Department – NRW097  
Seagate Technology LLC  
7801 Computer Avenue South  
Bloomington, MN 55435  
Telephone: 952.402.7896  
Attorney for Applicants

Please address all correspondence to:  
Seagate Technology LLC  
Intellectual Property Department – NRW097  
7801 Computer Avenue South  
Bloomington, MN 55435  
Phone: 952.402.7896  
Fax: 952.402.8187

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

Date of Deposit: June 20, 2006

I hereby certify that this Amendment and the documents referred to as attached therein are being transmitted via facsimile to 571-273-8300 at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown above.

  
Charles A. Jacobson